THAT CAT WHO HAD BARGED INTO MY HOUSE THAT DAY
What do you want
I'm a soon-to-be zodiac -nyan
Feed me and I shall give you blessings -nya
USED TO SAY THAT SHE WAS GOING TO GET INTO THE ZODIAC.
第23話
BUT NOW
STARE
HAHAHA
STARE
bsh
bsh

TAKERU ASKED, 'NYA-TAN, ARE YOU GETTING ANY CLOSER TO BECOMING AN ETO-SHIN?',
AND NYA-TAN ANSWERED, 'DEFINITELY -NYA'.

WHAT WAS THAT EYE CONTACT ABOUT~?
AH, THAT THING JUST NOW...

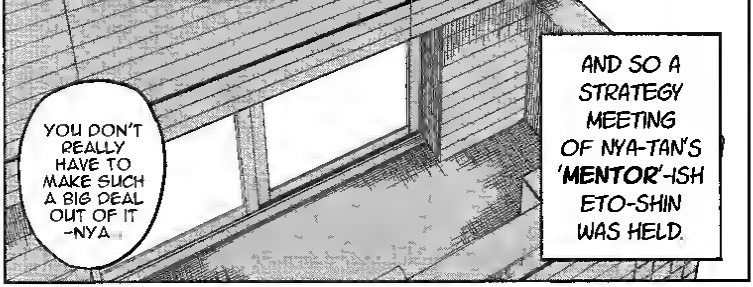
AND SO TAKERU REPLIED, "GO FOR IT." -NYA.
YEAH YEAH.
woah
YOU GUYS ARE ON THE SAME WAVE-LENGTH MORE SO THAN I IMAGINED!!

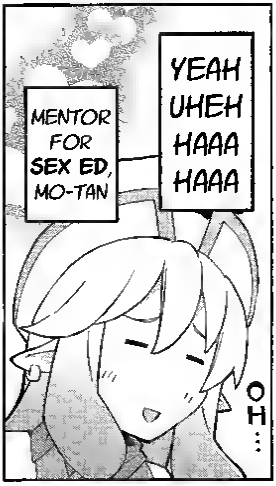
HOW MANY SOL/LULL SEALS HAVE YOU GOTTEN SO FAR DESS DESS?

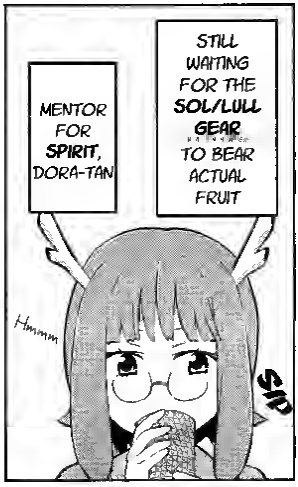
...THEN LET ME ASK YOU THIS:

EH, SO YOUR ANSWER WAS 'DEFI-NITELY'?
OF COURSE -NYA'

MANY PEOPLE ARE SUBJECT TO THEIR OWN INTERPRETATIONS ON THIS PARTICULAR SUBJECT,
AND NYAA WOULD RATHER NOT FORCE MYSELF INTO CHOOSING ONLY ONE OF THEM AS THE SOLE TRUTH -NYA.
THAT'S FINE AND ALL BUT JUST TELL ME HOW MANY SEALS YOU HAVE DESS DESS
DID YOU KNOW? WITHOUT GETTING ALL 13 SEALS, YOU CAN'T BECOME AN ETO-SHIN
OF COURSE I KNEW
HA...
WE'VE BEEN PUTTING IT AWAY FOR TOO LONG..
SHE MIGHT NOT MAKE IT IF WE DON'T DO SOMETHING DESS DESS..
I THOUGHT SO.. I'VE BEEN FEELING THE SAME FEAR AS YOURS, URI-TAN.
MAYBE TAKERU-SAN CAN TAKE A BREAK FROM BEING JUST A FUN-LOVING GUY AND THINK OF A SOLUTION TO THIS..


AND SO A STRATEGY MEETING OF NYA-TAN'S 'MENTOR'-ISH ETO-SHIN WAS HELD.
YOU DON'T REALLY HAVE TO MAKE SUCH A BIG DEAL OUT OF IT -NYA


MENTOR FOR SEX ED, MO-TAN
YEAH UHEH HAAA HAAA
OH...


MENTOR FOR SPIRIT, DORA-TAN
STILL WAITING FOR THE SOL/LULL GEAR TO BEAR ACTUAL FRUIT
Hmmm
SIP

MENTOR FOR KNOW-LEDGE, URI-TAN
WALKING TUTORIAL
and that's what I mean

THAT WOULD MEAN YOU'D LIKE A LECTURE RIGHT NOW DESUNE~!?
WRONG.

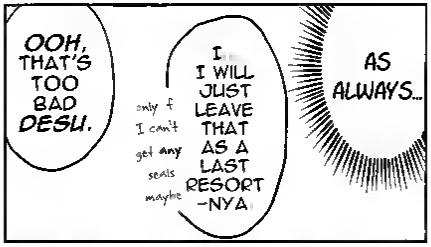
WAIT, THAT LAST ONE RIGHT THERE! I DON'T REMEMBER LEARNING ANYTHING FROM YOU!
so what should we do~?
Z

HEEEY, LESSON ONE-
WAAAH
STOOP!!
OKAY MY HONEY, LESSON STAAA-AAART!!
..ANYWAY, IT SEEMS LIKE NYA-TAN WANTS TO SERIOUSLY START WORKING ON GETTING THE SOL/LULL SEALS AS WELL..
-BUT THE PROB-LEM IS-
...THAT WE NEVER EVEN PLANNED AHEAD ABOUT HOW TO DEAL WITH NYA-TAN WHEN TIME LIKE THIS CAME
WHETHER WE'D LET HER FIGHT CHUU-TAN HEAD-ON, OR WE'D FIRST DEAL WITH SOME OF THE OTHER ETO-SHINS
DESS DESS
Isn't that kind of impossible?
THE ONLY SOLUTIONS I CAN THINK OF ARE THESE
① SOMEHOW MAKE HER INTO A FLAWLESS CHARACTER WHO WILL BE ABLE TO WIN ANY KINDS OF MATCHES
② RESEARCH ON EVERY SINGLE ETO-SHIN TO PREDICT WHAT KINDS OF MATCHES THEY ARE GOING TO PLAY
THAT'S RIGHT-
Come at me nya!
What will it be nya?

① SURE DOESN'T SOUND REALISTIC AT ALL, THOUGH
COMPARED TO A STUDENT, THIS WOULD BE LIKE TAKING A TEST FOR WHICH YOUR DON'T EVEN KNOW THE SUBJECT OR THE SCOPE OF.
'Flawless' What is she, a god?
She kinda is.
FORGET ABOUT WHETHER I CAN PASS IT, I WILL NOT EVEN CONSIDER TAKING THE DAMN TEST IN THE FIRST PLACE
Yes
Oh yes
GYAAAH
I'VE JUST BEEN LISTENING TO YOU GUYS UNTIL NOW, BUT AREN'T YOU ALL SETTING THE HURDLE TOO HIGH FOR THIS ETM12!!?
IT'S AS IF YOU DON'T EXPECT ME TO SUCCEED IN GETTING INTO THE ZODIAC AT ALL!?
THAT'S TRUE.
IT'D BE GREAT IF YOU KEEP WINNING LIKE IN OUR FIRST FIGHT
GEH, WHY YOU ...

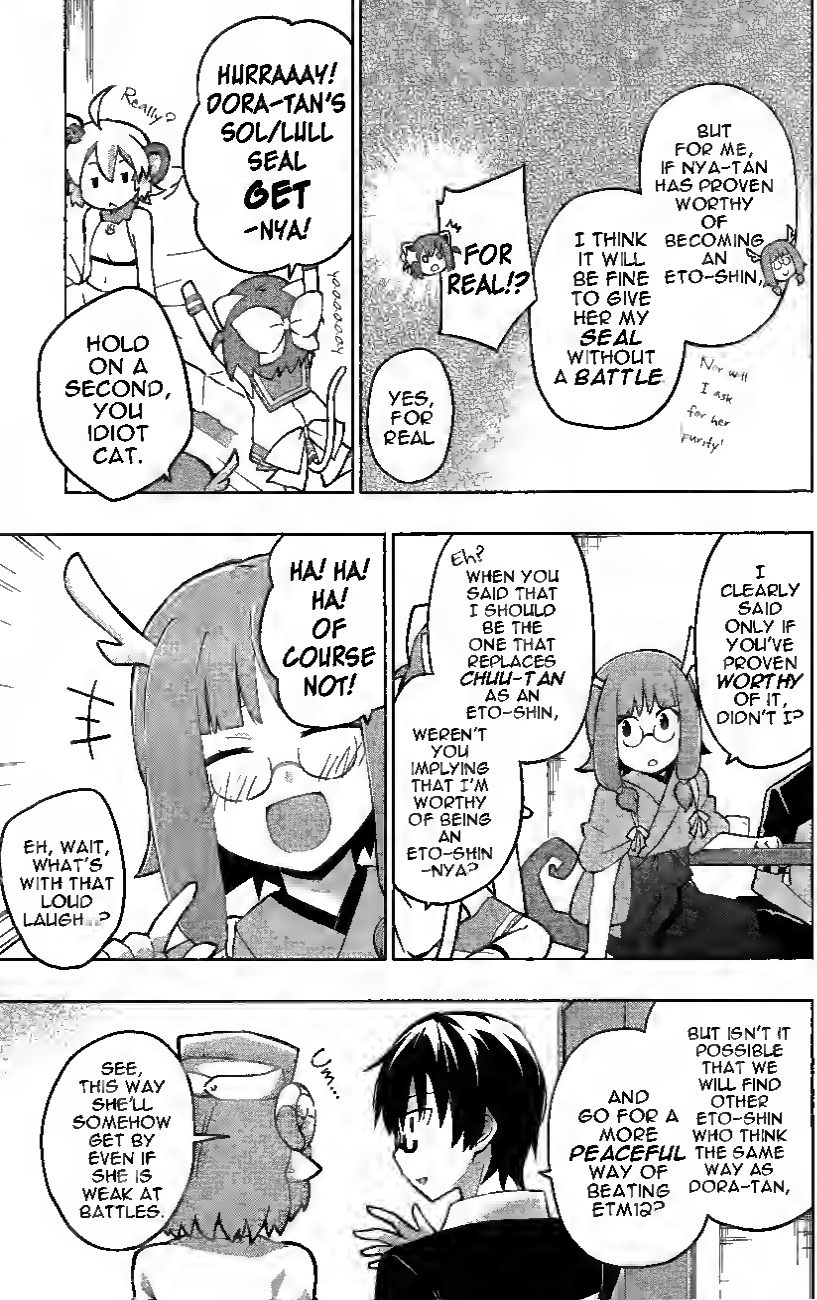
WELL THEN, HOW ABOUT ALL OF YOU GO EASY ON ME...
-NYA?
WE DIDN'T, YOU KNOW.
DID WE DECIDE TO PUT ALL THAT BEHIND US AND FORGET ABOUT IT -NYA?
CHUU-TAN BECOMING DANGEROUS IF NYAA DON'T GET INTO THE ZODIAC QUICK -NYA?
BY THE WAY, WHAT HAPPENED TO ALL THAT STUFF ABOUT
ME TOO!
NGH !?
MEI TOO~
EEH !?
ME!
YOU !?
WHA-WHAAAT!?
WHO !?
EVEN IF YOU SAY SO, THERE ARE STILL SOME ETO-SHIN WHO DON'T REALLY CARE WHETHER NYA-TAN GETS INTO THE ZODIAC...
SPARKLE
O-OHHH... MO-TAN IS SHINING A LIGHT ON MY DEVAS-TATED HEART...
BUT ME, I'VE BEEN WAITING SINCE THE BEGINNING FOR NYA-TAN TO JOIN THE ETO-SHIN -DESUNE!
STOP!? MY HEART WILL BREAK IF EVEN TAKERU SAYS SO!
THEN ME TOO.

BECAUSE I BELIEVE THAT NYA-TAN WILL BE ABLE TO BEAT THE ETM12 ON HER OWN DESU~.
SORRY~, THAT I CAN'T DO.
I need you
I want you
COMPARED TO HER, MO-TAN IS AS ALWAYS DESS DESS.
THIS DAMN CAT AGAIN...
THEN GIVE ME THE SEAL -NYA!
NOW!


OOH, THAT'S TOO BAD DESU.
I I WILL JUST LEAVE THAT AS A LAST RESORT -NYA
only if I can't get any seals maybe
AS ALWAYS...

BUT!! IF SHE IS WILLING TO TRADE HER PURITY FOR IT!!
I'LL HAND IT OVER GLADLY, RIGHT AFTER THAT!!

NOW I ABSO-LUTELY CAN'T LOSE TO YOU THEN!
OH CRAP!?


HURRAAAY! DORA-TAN'S SOL/LULL SEAL GET -NYA!
Really?
yyyyyyyy
HOLD ON A SECOND, YOU IDIOT CAT.
FOR REAL!?
YES, FOR REAL
BUT FOR ME, IF NYA-TAN HAS PROVEN WORTHY OF BECOMING AN ETO-SHIN,
I THINK IT WILL BE FINE TO GIVE HER MY SEAL WITHOUT A BATTLE
Nor will I ask for her purity!
HA! HA! HA! OF COURSE NOT!
EH, WAIT, WHAT'S WITH THAT LOUD LAUGH...?
Eh?
WHEN YOU SAID THAT I SHOULD BE THE ONE THAT REPLACES CHUU-TAN AS AN ETO-SHIN,
WEREN'T YOU IMPLYING THAT I'M WORTHY OF BEING AN ETO-SHIN -NYA?
I CLEARLY SAID ONLY IF YOU'VE PROVEN WORTHY OF IT, DIDN'T I?
SEE, THIS WAY SHE'LL SOMEHOW GET BY EVEN IF SHE IS WEAK AT BATTLES.
Um...
AND GO FOR A MORE PEACEFUL WAY OF BEATING ETM1?
BUT ISN'T IT POSSIBLE THAT WE WILL FIND OTHER ETO-SHIN WHO THINK THE SAME WAY AS DORA-TAN,

CAN YOU PLEASE STOP USING ME AS THE ARCHETYPE FOR A GULLIBLE SUCKER?
AND SHE WILL RECEIVE 1 SEAL IN RETURN
Wooow, is that so? Then here's my seal
Nyaa am very suited for the Eto-shin title so if you please...
WHEN SHE SUCCESS-FULLY FOOLS PERSUADES OTHERS, IT WILL BE CONSIDERED A VICTORY

ETM12, THE THING THAT ONLY SEEMS TO EXIST IN TALKS AND DREAMS

BUT INSTEAD, SHE WILL PITCH TO OTHERS HOW SHE IS WORTHY OF BECOMING AN ETO-SHIN

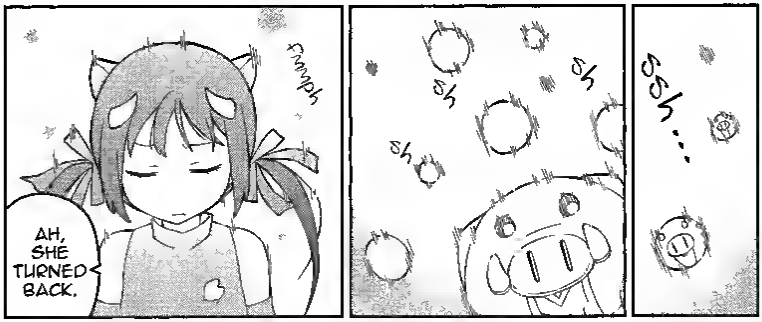
IF WE THINK OF THIS AS "A TEST TO PICK THE WORTHY ONES", I GUESS THERE ARE SIMILARITIES BETWEEN THEM
THAT KIND OF SOUNDS LIKE SHE IS LOOKING FOR A JOB...?

and that's why you should gimme the seal
AND TO YOUR COMPANY NYAA WILL BRING YADDA YADDA YADDA NYAN NYAN NYAN
NYAA ASSURE YOU, NYAA WILL MAKE A FANTASTIC ETO-SHIN
BSSH

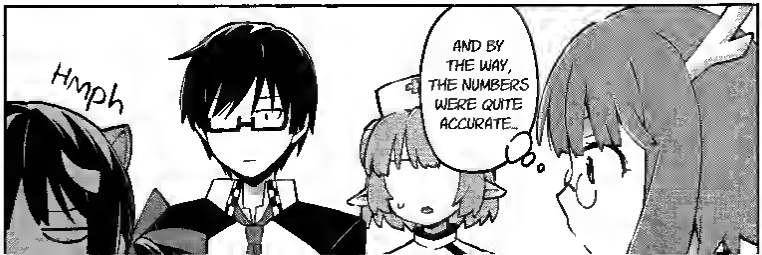
IT'S FINE; FOR ETO-SHIN OTHER THAN CHUU-TAN, WE CAN GO WITH THE 'PERSUASION' ROUTE!
THIS CHUU-TAN.. ISN'T SHE THE NUMBER-ONE PROBLEM HERE?
N'AA AAAA AAAA AAAA !!?
FIGHT ME, AND PERISH !!!
ALRIGHT, DO IT...!
EVEN IN YOUR FANTASIES THEY'LL HAVE TO FIGHT, HUH?
WHAT IF SHE JUST TRAINS HER SKILLS UNTIL SHE CAN PERSUADE EVEN CHUU-TAN HERSELF?
WHAT, WITH HER FISTS?
URI
URI
URI
1,000,000 URI-TANS.
SO MANY ZEROES!
BY THE WAY, JUST HOW STRONG IS THIS CHUU-TAN ANYWAY?
AS IN, HOW MANY URI-TANS WOULD SHE BE?
YOU'RE USING ME AS THE UNIT!?

D-DON'T TREAT ME LIKE AN IDIOT DESS DESS!
LATELY I'VE BEEN GETTING HIGH-QUALITY SOL/LULL FROM TAKERU-SAN, SO...
WELL, IT'S THE TOP VERSUS THE BOTTOM, SO THAT'S EXPECTED
MAYBE IT'S JUST URI-TAN WHO IS TOO WEAK -NYA?
WHEN YOU SAY THAT, IT GETS KINDA HARD TO TELL IF CHUU-TAN IS AMAZINGLY STRONG, OR IF URI-TAN IS JUST TOO WEAK
Sol/Lull
Chaaarge
ブォォォン
LOTS OF LITTLE THINGIES CAME OUT!?
NOW I CAN EVEN DO THIS KIND OF THING DESS DESS!!

WITH THIS MUCH FIREPOWER, I CAN EVEN HOLD OFF CHUU-TAN FOR A FEW MINUTES, YOU KNOW DESS DESS!?
EVEN SO, ONLY FOR 'A FEW MINUTES', HUH_


Hmph
AH, SHE TURNED BACK.
sh
sh
sh
sh...

IT WOULD TAKE A MIRACLE -NYA.
WHY ARE YOU SUDDENLY TALKING ABOUT PROBABILITIES!?
HOW MANY BILLIONTHS WOULD NYA-TAN, WHO HAS ALREADY LOST SEVERAL TIMES TO ME, BE!?
ALSO, IF WE DO SAY THAT I AM ONLY A MILLIONTH OF CHUU-TAN,


Hmph
AND BY THE WAY, THE NUMBERS WERE QUITE ACCURATE..

WELL, BUT...
IT IS TRUE THAT CHUU-TAN IS A VERY STRONG FIGHTER WHO COULD BEAT UP MULTIPLE ETO-SHIN ALL AT ONCE OESU~
HMMM. IN ANY CASE, SHE SURE SOUNDS AMAZING.
NO, NO, NO, WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
ETMIQ IS, AND ALWAYS HAS BEEN, A FIGHT BETWEEN ETO-SHIN AND ETO-MUSUME!
BUT HAVEN'T YOU BEEN TELLING US THAT THIS IS AN EMERGENCY?
CHUU-TAN, EVEN THOUGH SHE IS AN ETO-SHIN, IS TRYING TO CONTROL ALL MANKIND
IF SHE IS SO ABSURDLY STRONG, WHY DON'T ALL OF YOU ETO-SHIN TEAM UP AGAINST HER,
INSTEAD OF JUST LEAVING EVERYTHING UP TO NYA-TAN?
EH...
IF THE WHOLE WORLD IS GOING TO BE IN DANGER
JUST BECAUSE OF ONE ETO-SHIN GOING BERSERK,
I THINK IT'S BETTER FOR THE ENTIRE ETO-SHIN TO GO OUT ON AN ALL-OUT WAR
INSTEAD OF WAITING FOR THE IMPROBABLE GROWTH OF NYA-TAN
Please do something to protect Japan

BUT WAIT, NYA-TAN WON'T BE THE ONLY ONE TAKING A BITE OFF THAT MOCHI, THOUGH!
T-THERE ARE OTHERS!?
AND IN THE END, IT WILL BE A HAPPY ENDING WHERE NYAA TAKES OVER THE EMPTY SPOT -NYA!?
OH... THAT WILL CERTAINLY BE A MOCHI ON A SHELF* DESUNE!
BA
M
ME!
BUT YOU'RE ALREADY AN ETO-SHIN!

TN NOTE: 'MOCHI ON A SHELF' IS A JAPANESE IDIOM MEANING 'STROKE OF UNEXPECTED LUCK'

BUT I WANT A COMFIER SPOT
I DON'T CARE!!
MAYBE IF SHE GOES DOWN OUTSIDE ETM19, SHE WON'T LOSE HER MEMBER-SHIP.
I THINK IT WOULD BE BETTER IF CHUU-TAN RETURNED TO HOW SHE USED TO BE, THOUGH...
W-WAIT -NYA! THAT KIND OF DEVELOP-MENT IS TROUBLING -NYA!
'CAUSE NYAA...

NYAA MUST BECOME AN ETO-SHIN NO MATTER WHAT -NYAAAAA!!
NYAAAAAAA~
NYAAAAAAA~
NYAAAAAAA~
NYA?
COME TO THINK OF IT... WHY?
WHY ARE YOU SO HELL-BENT ON GETTING INTO THE ZODIAC ANYWAY?
YOU NEVER TOLD ME YOUR ACTUAL REASON.

NO, T-THAT'S DEFINITELY NOT IT -NYA!?
YOU AREN'T SURE WHY YOURSELF, BUT YOU WANT TO GET IN THE ZODIAC ANYWAY?
THEN WHAT IS IT?
AH, WE DON'T KNOW WHY AS WELL.
EH, ARE YOU ASKING ME RIGHT NOW?
EVEN THOUGH I'VE CLEARLY SAID THAT I HAVE AMNESIA?
EH... COULD THIS REALLY BE JOB HUNTING...?
MOTHER CAT...
I WANTED TO MAKE MY MOTHER CAT BACK IN MY HOMETOWN PROUD
BUT WHO WOULD GET MOTIVATED IN A SITUATION LIKE THIS..?
SINCE IT DOESN'T CHANGE WHAT MUST BE DONE
WELL, THE REAL REASON DOESN'T REALLY MATTER,
IN OTHER WORDS, YOU DON'T REMEMBER
AND LET'S JUST ASSUME THAT'S THE CASE -NYA

ALL JOKES ASIDE,
ALTHOUGH THE BOY BRINGS UP A GOOD POINT,
CHUU-TAN STILL HASN'T MADE A MOVE ON US YET,
SO I THINK IT'S OKAY FOR US TO HOPE FOR NYA-TAN TO GET BETTER FOR NOW.
IS THAT SO?
WELL, I'M OKAY WITH ANY-THING, REALLY.
AND SO, TO SUMMA-RIZE WHAT WE'VE DISCUSSED TILL NOW,
NYA-TAN WILL CONTINUE BONDING WITH THE BOY TO COLLECT HER SOL/LULL.
AND KEEP TRAINING SO THAT SHE CAN UTILIZE HER SOL/LULL EFFEC-TIVELY.
AS FOR THE ETO-SHIN WHO ARE UNWILLING TO CO-OPERATE, SHE'LL ALSO NEED TO RESEARCH THEM TO PREDICT THEIR MATCH CHOICES.
WHAT DO YOU GUYS THINK OF THIS PLAN?
Oh
YOU ALL ARE ACTING AS IF YOU FOUND A 'PLAN' THAT'S NEW AND INNO-VATIVE, BUT...
BUT WE'VE ALREADY BEEN DOING MOST OF THAT ALL THIS TIME...
EH?
What is it?
NYA-TAN?

WANT TO BE IN THE ZODIAC IN THE FIRST PLACE -NYA...
WHY DID NYAA...
EH? NO, I'M JUST HUNGRY -NYA
AH, RIGHT
STILL NOT YET....

NYA-TAN IS, AS ALWAYS,
TAKING HER OWN SWEET TIME DOING EVERYTHING ANYHOW
URI-TAN AND DORA-TAN ARE BOTH SURPRISINGLY DISAP-POINTING.

MAYBE I...
SHOULD DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS...
Fssh

第23話 終